AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **CANCEL** claims 1-26, 29 and 31 without prejudice of disclaimer.

Please **AMEND** claim 41 as follows.

Please **ADD** claims 32-44 as follows:

A copy of all pending claims and a status of the claims are provided below.

1-26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) ~~The stage assembly of claim 1,~~ A stage assembly comprising:

a first motor that includes a first part and a second part, the first motor producing a first force;

a second motor that includes a first part and a second part, the second motor producing a second force;

a base to which the first part of the first motor is attached;

a stage to which is attached the second part of the first motor and the second part of the second motor, the stage moving relative to the base by at least one of the first force and the second force; and

a second stage to which the first part of the second motor is attached, wherein

the base and the second stage are different respective bodies, and

the second stage includes at least one arm that extends in the y direction and includes the first part of the second motor for applying force in the y direction to the stage.

28. (currently amended) ~~The stage assembly of claim 27, wherein:~~ A stage assembly comprising:

a first motor that includes a first part and a second part, the first motor producing a first force;

a second motor that includes a first part and a second part, the second motor producing a second force;

a base to which the first part of the first motor is attached;

a stage to which is attached the second part of the first motor and the second part of the second motor, the stage moving relative to the base by at least one of the first force and the second force; and

a second stage to which the first part of the second motor is attached, wherein

the base and the second stage are different respective bodies,

the second stage includes at least one arm that extends in the y direction and includes the first part of the second motor for applying force in the y direction to the stage,

the first part runs along the length of the at least one arm, and

the at least one arm is supported on the base by bearings.

29. (cancelled)

30. (currently amended) ~~The stage assembly of claim 1, wherein:~~ A stage assembly comprising:

a first motor that includes a first part and a second part, the first motor producing a first force;

a second motor that includes a first part and a second part, the second motor producing a second force;

a base to which the first part of the first motor is attached;

a stage to which is attached the second part of the first motor and the second part of the second motor, the stage moving relative to the base by at least one of the first force and the second force; and

a second stage to which the first part of the second motor is attached, wherein

the base and the second stage are different respective bodies,

the second stage carries a portion of a levitation device which extends along the at least one arms in the y direction,

the stage carries another portion of the levitation device, and

the levitation device provides a levitation force to support the stage weight.

31. (cancelled)

32. (new) A stage assembly comprising:

a base member;

a stage that is supported by the base member, the stage being movable relative to the base member;

a ground that supports the base member;

a first driving device connected to the stage and the base member, the first driving device moving the stage along a first direction; and

a second driving device connected to the stage, the second driving device moving the stage along a second direction that is different from the first direction,

wherein a first reaction force that is generated by the first driving device acts on the base member and moves the base member relative to the ground along the first direction, and

wherein a second reaction force that is generated by the second driving device is not transmitted to the base member.

33. (new) The stage assembly of claim 32, wherein the second reaction force is transmitted to a movable member that is isolated from the base member.

34. (new) The stage assembly of claim 33, wherein the movable member is movable relative to the ground as a countermass.

35. (new) The stage assembly of claim 32, further comprising a bearing device that is disposed between the base member and the ground.

36. (new) The stage assembly of claim 35, further comprising an actuator that is connected to the base member, the actuator moving the base member along the first direction.

37. (new) The stage assembly of claim 32, wherein the base member moves in a direction opposite to the direction of the movement of the stage along the first direction.

38. (new) An exposure apparatus, comprising:

an illumination system that irradiates radiant energy; and

the stage assembly according to claim 32, the stage assembly disposing an object on a path at the radiant energy.

39. (new) A device manufactured with the exposure apparatus of claim 38.

40. (new) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 38.

41. (new) A stage assembly, comprising:

a base member;

a stage that is supported by the base member, the stage being movable relative to the base member;

a movable member that is isolated from the base member and movable relative to the stage;

a first driving device connected to the stage and the base member, the first driving device moving the stage along a first direction; and

a second driving device connected to the stage and the movable member, the second driving device moving the stage along a second direction that is different from the first direction,

wherein a first reaction force that is generated by the stage motion along the first direction is canceled by utilizing the motion of the stage member and a second reaction force that

is generated by the stage motion along the second direction is cancelled by utilizing the motion of the movable member.

42. (new) The stage assembly of claim 41, wherein:

the first driving device includes a first part connected to the stage and a second part connected to the base member; and

the second driving device includes a first part connected to the stage and a second part connected to the movable member.

43. (new) The stage assembly of claim 41, further comprising a bearing device that supports the base member movably.

44. (new) The stage assembly of claim 43, further comprising an actuator that is connected to the base member, the actuator moving the base member along the first direction.